



Editor:  
International Association  
for Sustainable Building  
and Living - natureplus

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### natureplus International Partner Organisations



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# naturenews

## International Review

### Come to Bologna Conference 30-5

Innovation and Sustainability for the construction sector /ANAB ICEA natureplus

At Friday 30-5-14 natureplus ist organising together with its partner organisations in Italy ANAB and ICEA a one day conference "Innovation and Sustainability for the construction sector" in Bologna University (Alma Mater Studiorum). This event with high ranked speakers from Italy and other EU countries marks the official start of natureplus activities in Italy. Here some quotations of the invitation appeal:

"The construction industry has been particularly affected by the financial crisis that has resulted in a sharp slowdown in the private housing market, as well to that of infrastructure, in most European countries. As highlighted by the European Commission the response to the crisis is a strategy of sustainable competitiveness of the sector and includes



Auditorium Alma Mater Studiorum Bologna - this is the location, where the conference will take place. Photo: ICEA

measures to raise the skills, innovation and the green economy. Indeed the Commission identifies as potential engines of a sustainable growth the following areas: energy efficiency of buildings, green building, efficient use of resources in manufacturing processes, improvement of the indoor air climate and the enhancement of reuse/recovery or recycling processes."

All this is strongly connected with the natureplus certification objectives. So the conference aims to facilitate a debate about strategies and measures needed for sustainable recovery of the building sector, to spread innovation of building materials and construction technologies and to present the natureplus certification scheme for eco-building materials.

### natureplus HQ moved

Bigger and better rooms for growing activities

In May the natureplus Headquarter moved into bigger und better rooms. They are located in a his-



toric building (see photo) in the same little town, near to Heidelberg in the South-West of Germany - see new address at the back page! The removal was prompted by the recruitment of two new employees: Ilka Voss, architect, is our consultant for planners, investors and public authorities to use natureplus as a green building instrument; Felix Konrad, also architect, is working for customer relationship and the upcoming natureplus product database.

### New Employees

We welcome two new employees (both architects) in the natureplus Headquarter: Ilka Voß and Felix Konrad.





## natureplus partner organisation ASBP

Many activities to bring up Sustainable Building and natureplus in the UK

### Resource exhibition

The natureplus banner was integral to the ASBP stand at Resource exhibition at ExCel in March; the first major UK exhibition dedicated to the circular economy which runs alongside Ecobuild. Gary Newman delivered a talk at Ecobuild on sustainability standards alongside Karin Krieder, Executive director of ISEAL; which is a non-governmental international organisation whose mission is to strengthen sustainabil-

ity standards systems for the benefit of people and the environment. ASBP is a subscriber member and have recommended that natureplus should consider membership. Simon Corbey also spoke at Ecobuild in London on the benefits of natureplus.



Gary Newman speaks at the Ecobuild Resource exhibition. Photo: natureplus



Graham Hilton, ASBP director, and our stand at Resource.

Photo: natureplus

### Code for sustainable homes

March heralded the announcement by the UK government that the Code for Sustainable Homes is to be scrapped, with energy efficiency rolled into building regulations. British natureplus representative ASBP were not too disappointed to hear of its demise, as the Code had become something of a tick box exercise and relied on the BRE's Green Guide for material selection, which ASBP has long considered not to be fit for purpose.

### Embodied carbon week

ASBP organised a debate in April sponsored by natureplus, as part of embodied carbon week, hosted by UKGBC. In total 24 events around the UK were held with over 1500 delegates attending. Our debate was a lively affair but it is clear that this government will not be legislating on materials anytime soon and is looking to Europe to progress this area.

Take a look at: <http://www.asbp.org.uk/uploads/documents/resources>



Christophe Beaussire, Directeur du Développement de Pavatex France, avec Pierluigi Aschenbrenner-Locchi, représentant de natureplus France. Photo: natureplus

## France: trade fair écobat

Big success for natureplus at écobat in Paris

Natureplus was presented by Foamglas, Pavatex and Diffutherm at the French trade fair 'écobat' march of this year. Natureplus representative Pierluigi Aschenbrenner Locchi noticed an increased awareness and knowledge of natureplus by the French building public. He expects more French producers to be interested in obtaining the natureplus label.

More and more, the French

building sector realizes that sustainable building is not only about energy saving, but also about health aspects and environmental quality of building products. Almost half of the 14 conferences at écobat dealt with environmental aspects of building materials. *For more information please contact natureplus France (see last page).*



# VIBE at Batibouw Building Fair 2014

Natureplus shines at VIBE-stand at Batibouw Brussels



Els Van de Moortel (LCA specialist VIBE), Anita Ory (director sustainability Wienerberger B), Peter Thoelen (director VIBE), Johan Vanderbiest (CEO Wienerberger B) at the occasion of the natureplus certification of Wienerberger Belgium rooftiles. Photo: natureplus

innovative wall tile systems, fitted for modern lean design buildings, but also traditional roof tiles, which are already produced for many decades. This indicates that not only innovative products, but also well known and widespread local products can meet the stringent natureplus standards.

### Conference 'green building'

VIBE lectured on labels and evaluation systems for building materials in Veurne, on 14th May,

End of February and beginning of March, VIBE represented natureplus at Belgium's number one building fair Batibouw.

VIBE organized a big-sized stand combining the VIBE-services, the services of the Walloon partner Cluster Ecoconstruction, the European projects CAP'EM and Grow2Build and of course natureplus.

The stand was also the venue of a press conference, putting in the picture the official handing over of the natureplus certificate



for several types of roof and wall tiles from Wienerberger Belgium. Under which

mainly for a professional public. Of course, natureplus was highlighted as the most important one.

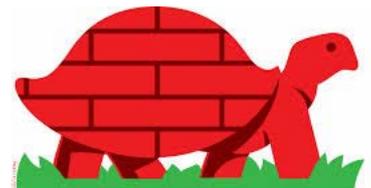
### Book 'Natuurlijk isoleren'

In March, VIBE and Lanoo Publishers presented the book 'Natuurlijk isoleren'. The book is dedicated to insulating with natural insulation materials. It comprises theory and practical advice and do-it-yourself tips and pictures. Natureplus labeled products are specifically indicated and natureplus is visible throughout the book.

*For further information please contact natureplus Belgium (see last page).*



The VIBE/natureplus stand was also visited by the Belgian Prime Minister Elio Di Rupo and by the Belgian Prince Laurent. Here, Peter Thoelen (right) explains the acoustic capacities of natureplus labelled insulation materials to Prince Laurent (left) and Batibouw-director Geert Maes (middle). Photo: natureplus



**BATIBOUW**



Peter Thoelen and client at VIBE/natureplus counter.

Photo: natureplus

**natureplus  
Annual Assembly 2014**



Invitation to Members only: The natureplus Annual Assembly 2014 is held at Thursday 29-5-2014 in Bologna (Italy), Hotel I Portici. At the agenda we have reports of the executive committee and the management, the financial result 2013, the budget 2014 and the election of the whole committee.



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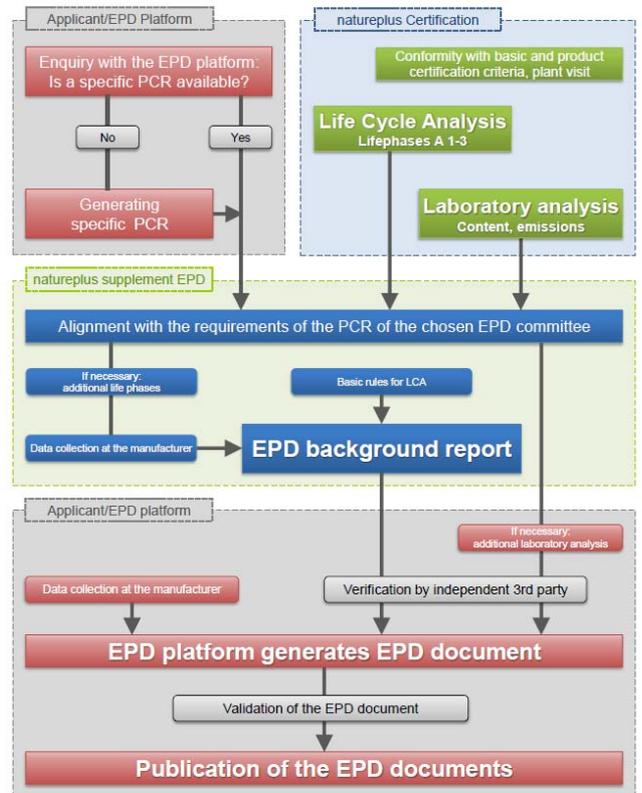
# How to get an EPD by natureplus?

With our Partner IBO (AT) we can transfer natureplus LCA data to EPD background report

With a new service, natureplus offers to its clients an economic way to get an EPD (Environmental Product Declaration). If a manufacturer wishes to certify his product(s) with natureplus® or if he already bears the natureplus® label, he is able to generate synergy effects and acquire an EPD on the basis of the natureplus life cycle assessment. An EPD is a Type-III-Environmental Declaration according to EN ISO 14025:2010. These labels provide quantifiable environmentally significant data during the life cycle of a product. Manufacturers need EPDs for the proof of performance according to the European Construction Products Regulation (CPR) EU 305/2011 and for the proof of environmental data for the assessment and certification of a building with LEED, BREAM, DGNB or other system. Using the data of natureplus audit to obtain an EPD background report manufacturers can cut their efforts significantly.

*To know more details and to get an offer please contact IBO (natureplus Austria, address at left).*

**Procedure for the creation of an EPD**  
Synergy effects through natureplus certification



## Cologne: „Dach + Holz“

Success for natureplus at Germany's biggest building fair 2014

At the biggest German building fair „Dach + Holz“ in Cologne in February 2014 natureplus was very successful with its new stand philosophy: We wanted to make natureplus more transparent and to have some “action” at our stand. So we’ve had lectures from natureplus and its partners to actual developments and offers, we handed over certificates for new labelled products to Gutex, Pavatex and ThermoHanf,



Rewarding of Gutex certification with (l. to r.) Th. Schmitz-Günther and U. Welteke-Fabriceus (natureplus), M. Thoma and G. Siemens (Gutex). photo: natureplus

we interviewed natureplus experts to their testing, auditing and consultation work and we gave our clients the chance to present their products and their application at our stand. This new concept provided good performance.



Action with ThermoHanf at the natureplus stand at the fair “Dach + Holz 2014” in Cologne. photo: natureplus